

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/842,888

Examiner

Houshang Safaipoor

Applicant(s)

HONBO, TSUNAO

Art Unit

2622

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-33.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted,
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                     | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

## **Reasons for Allowance**

Claims 1-33 are allowed.

This is examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The instant invention recites an image reading apparatus which can operate in a plurality of image processing modes, comprising:

- a photoelectric converter adapted to read an object image and outputting an electrical signal;

- a reference member used to correct image read non uniformity of said photoelectric converter;

- an illumination light source adapted to illuminate an object and said reference member with light;

- a timer adapted to measure an elapsed time since a previous OFF timing of said illumination light source, and a time since illumination light source is turned on;

- an instruction unit adapted to issue a read instruction of the object; and

- a controller adapted to set a wait time in correspondence with the elapsed time measured by said timer and also in accordance with a currently set image processing mode of the plurality of image processing modes, that, when said instruction unit issues the read instruction of the object turns on said illumination light source again, and controls said photoelectric converter to

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begin to read said reference member after a lapse of the wait time since said illumination light source is turned on.

The features identified, in combination with other claim limitations, are neither suggested nor discussed by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### *Conclusion*


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Houshang Safaipoor whose telephone number is (703)306-4037. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. from 6:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L Coles, Sr. can be reached on (703)305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Houshang Safaipoor  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2622  
November 6, 2004

  
EDWARD COLES  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000

## EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in telephone interview with Stephen Manetta (Reg. No. 40,426) on November 5, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 9:

a timer adapted to measure an ~~elapsed~~ elapsed time since a previous OFF .....

Claim 1, line 12:

a controller ~~that, when said instruction unit issues the read instruction of the object,~~  
adapted to set a wait time in correspondence with the elapsed time measured by said timer and  
also in accordance with a currently set image processing mode of the plurality of image  
processing modes, that, when said instruction unit issues the read instruction of the object turns  
on said illumination light source again, and controls said photoelectric converter to begin to read  
said reference member after a lapse of the wait time since said illumination light source is turned  
on.

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Claim 16, page 4, line 6:

setting, ~~when the read instruction of the object is issued,~~ a wait time in correspondence with the first time period and also in correspondence with the currently set image processing mode when the read instruction of the object is issued;

Claim 31, page 6, line 7:

fourth computer readable program code means for, ~~when the read instruction of the object is issued,~~ setting a wait time in correspondence with the measured elapsed time and also in correspondence with the currently set image processing mode, when the read instruction of the object is issued;